

44469. AMARANTHUS PANICULATUS L. Amaranthaceæ. Alegria.

From San Juan Bautista, Tabasco, Mexico. Purchased from Mr. Gabriel Itié, director, Agricultural Experiment Station. Received April 3, 1917.

Alegria is produced in Tlajomulco, Zacoalco, and San Pedro Tlaquepaque, districts belonging to the State of Jalisco. This annual is sown in nurseries; in the month of December it is harvested and is used in the making of sweets. I was told the seeds in question are found with difficulty in the pueblos near Guadalajara, for the inhabitants do not put them to any practical application; and, if they are sometimes used, it is when they are mixed with dulce for children. They are surely very insipid. [These seeds are sold in Mexico City, and] they are also seen in the State of Michoacan, where they are used for the same purpose." (Itié.)

44470. FICUS PSEUDOPALMA Blanco. Moraceæ.

From the Philippine Islands. Presented by Dr. E. D. Merrill, acting director, Bureau of Science, Manila. Received April 5, 1917.

"A single fruit of *Ficus pseudopalma*, which apparently has fertile seeds. This fruit was recently sent to me from Corregidor. The species is a most striking ornamental and will probably thrive out of doors in southern Florida and in southern California; it is well worthy of cultivation in greenhouses. The stems are erect, unbranched, and usually about 3 cm. in diameter. The stem is tipped by a dense crown of very characteristic leaves which are sometimes nearly a meter in length. The fruits are borne in the leaf axils. On account of its palmlike aspect Blanco selected the name *pseudopalma*; the common Tagalog name is *niogniogan*, which literally means 'little coconut.'" (Merrill.)

44471 to 44473.

From Granada, Spain. Plants purchased from the Pedro Giraud Nurseries, through Mr. Percival Gassett, American consul, Malaga. Received April 7, 1917.

44471 and 44472. FICUS CARICA L. Moraceæ. Fig.

44471. "*Albanes*, the name by which the *Paharero* fig is here known." (Gassett.)

44472. "*Isabeles*, the most delicious fig, much sought after." (Gassett.)

44473. PYRUS COMMUNIS L. Malaceæ. Pear.

Peraleta. A dwarf variety of the common pear.

44474. CITRULLUS VULGARIS Schrad. Cucurbitaceæ. Watermelon.

From Lusambo, Belgian Kongo, Africa. Presented by Mr. E. B. Stilz. Received April 10, 1917.

"Seed of a native watermelon. It grows here like a weed; the vine is almost exactly like that of the cultivated watermelon, only not quite so fuzzy. The fruit also resembles a watermelon, being green and about the size of a man's head when ripe. The rind is very tough and the meat is white and stringy and about as fit to eat as that of a gourd. It has the watermelon smell, however. I do not know whether it is the ancestor or a degenerate descendant of our watermelon." (Stilz.)